

One Great Hour of Sharing



UNITED APPEAL

FOR RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

March 8, 1953

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

FEBRUARY 1953

In Memoriam

Kansas Congregationalists lost one of their outstanding women in the passing of Mrs. Nelson Smith in October 1952. She was a devoted and active church worker in the Plevna Congregational Church and later in Hutchinson. Until a few years ago, Mrs. Smith was active in our Hutchinson Church. Her activities extended far beyond the local church. Many years ago Mrs. Smith served as Association President of the Arkansas Valley Churches and gave unstintingly of her time and energy in visiting and inspiring the churches of her association. In 1936 and 1937 she served as State President of the Kansas Women's Department. When she finished the duties of that office, still wanting to be of service, she served as chairman of various committees of the women's work.

Mrs. Smith's major interest was in helping others. Through gifts and leadership, she promoted the Friendly Service of the Women's Department. She gave generously to the Home and Foreign Boards of our fellowship.

Through Mrs. Smith's long illness she never complained. She had perfect faith in the God whom she trusted. She never lost interest in the progress of the Hutchinson Church nor in the general program of our fellowship.

The physical presence of this fine woman has been taken from us, but her deeds and influence will leave an enduring imprint upon our Congregational Christian fellowship.

—Martha A. Hornung

Mrs. Myrtle C. Smith wife of the late Rev. Arthur I. Smith, died on January 17 in Kansas City. She had lived with her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Stevens since Mr. Smith's death in 1945. The Stevens' lived in Kansas

City until recently when they moved to Topeka. Surviving also is a son, Edward A. Smith of Syracuse, N.Y., and five grandchildren. The Smith's last pastorate in our fellowship was Ottawa Federated Church where they served until 1945.

Mr. George Pine Crippen, father of the Rev. G. Waldo Crippen, passed away at the Crippen home in Milford on January 17 following a prolonged illness. The elder Mr. Crippen was a retired Santa Fe machinist and former member of the Kansas legislature. While making his home with his son both at Carbondale and Milford he endeared himself to the people of the parish with his deeds of kindness and his ready wit. The Rev. W. E. Dull had charge of the Memorial Service at the Milford Church on January 20.

Error In January Issue

We deeply regret two errors in the article on page 4 by "Peggy of the Flint Hills" about Frank Korab. In the second column, "But you joined the church because you like to sin" should have read "because you liked to sing." Barbara Denison should have been Bertha Denison. Our copy to the printer was correct, but the errors were overlooked in proof reading. We are very sorry.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

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Editors

Supt. and Mrs. L. M. Rymph
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Mrs. John H. Jones
New Conference Moderator

Greetings and Goals

Word has just come that I am now State Moderator. First, may I express for myself and for the conference our keen regret that Mr. Charles Brewster and his fine family are leaving the state. We will miss, not only Mr. Brewster as Moderator, but the friendly fellowship, the wise counsel and the leadership skills of the entire Brewster family. We wish for each of them rich experiences in their new field.

Second, I note my varied reactions as I face the responsibility of being Moderator for three months. This Conference has been part and parcel of my entire life; its achievements have been my joy and its weaknesses my concern. For many years I have said that the nearest I ever come to going home is going to the State Conference meeting. If I have any capacity for

service, there is no group to whom I would so happily give it and there is no group from whom I so appreciate receiving honor.

Third, may I suggest that each church check itself anew on our common task. Have you sent in your Declaration of Purpose for the Church Building Loan Fund? If not, are you becoming informed by literature and a speaker that you may soon do so?

Are you laying careful Lenten plans which will lead to an Easter ingathering? Our conference is 100 years old the spring of 1954. We have set a membership goal as one of our worthy projects. May we all be prayerfully in earnest that many may grow in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and may unite themselves in His service.

Remember, that our Christian World Mission must have steady income if it is to do our work for us; that the per capita dues are twenty cents per member this year and that our State Conference will meet in Plymouth Church, Wichita, May 5, 6, and 7, 1955.

School of Missions

A very successful "School of Missions" was held on four consecutive Wednesday evenings at Osborne United, with the final session held February 4. The study was Africa. Following a supper graded programs under capable leadership, were held for children, Junior Hi youth, High School students and adults. Book reviews, movies, skits and filmstrips were featured on the program. Attendance ranged from 55 to 85. We feel that concentrated study of this kind on the theme of the year could mean much in our churches. We like the idea of having it for all ages — not just the women.

Kansans Attend The Missions Council

Kansas is on the map at the Missions Council now in session in Cleveland, Ohio. It began early for Pauline Bloomer in the Division of Christian Education. Merle Rymph with the Superintendent's Conference, Mrs. E. C. Garrison with the Conference of Women State Presidents, Chester Bidleman with the Laymen's Fellowship and Charles Brewster with the Council for Social Action. Later, Mrs. R. H. Garvey arrived to attend the meetings of the Directors of the Board of Home Missions and Mrs. John W. Gibson the sessions of the Prudential Committee of the American Board. Alice Huggins is speaking on China, and Bill Manspeaker on the Church Building Loan Fund.

"Is Anybody Listening" is the theme of the sessions. Acute was the listening to James H. Robinson, the Negro minister of the Church of the Master (Presbyterian U.S.A.) of New York City. Dr. Robinson who has just returned from a mission to students around the world, said the fact that he is an American negro was an asset to him, particularly in Asia where he had access to many groups not available to whites. He advocates the sending of many negroes to mission lands, for they can truly understand the problems of downtrodden peoples because of their own suffering. They also can help to remove some of the prejudice against us because of our attitude in America toward minority groups. Rev. Robinson's article in the February 2, 1953 issue of *Advance*, further amplifies his beliefs.

For those of us familiar with the Parable of Moab Hartlie his reappearance at the Board of Home Missions

luncheon, created much interest and amusement. It is he who is hero of Ronald Bridge's story of the \$100.00 gift to the Church Building Loan Fund when it was created in 1852. Today the church of John Whiteneck at Bakersfield, California, entirely destroyed by earthquake, has signed the Declaration of Purpose for \$4300.00, its suggested goal.

The Rev. Mr. Whiteneck will be remembered as a former director of religious education at Wichita Plymouth.

The work of the Council for Social Action in Massachusetts as reported by the Reverend Myron Fowell, demonstrates what a Conference can do in fields of Social Action. It can promote legislation toward increased funds for public education, impose restrictions in gambling, encourage temperance, and moderate meetings between capital and labor. In one case, successful arbitration in textile manufacturing plants was the result of such efforts.

Miss Ruth Isabel Seabury, recently returned from India and Africa, was the keynote speaker at the American Board luncheon. Missionaries and nationals representing Africa, Greece, China, India, and the Phillipines brought messages of their work.

"Hidden Heart", our new film had its premier showing, January 27, 1953. It has been produced cooperatively by the Evangelical and Reformed Churches, the Disciples of Christ and our own denomination. It's a film on stewardship, with a modern home and its relation to the church, providing the setting.

Certain Kansans have been listening!

—Hortense B. C. Gibson

(Mrs. John W.)

Reporting from Cleveland

Evangelism in 1953

Evangelism in the Year of Our Lord 1953 is after men (men, women and young people) all that can be reached, inducing them to join the Church of Jesus Christ. "Four Thousand more by fifty-four", our Kansas slogan phrased in 1950 is well conceived and worthy of our best efforts.

The Church needs men — transformed men, the kind who press ever on toward a more glorious churchmanship. An ever-growing membership is one of the prerequisites of a strong church.

Membership Conservation

To that end we also need to stress the conservation of members already on church rolls. The Commission on Evangelism and Devotional Life has given much thought to the task of dealing with Non-Resident members. Every pastor and every chairman of the local church committee on Evangelism should have one of their folders.

Spiritual Temperature

But an increase in church membership, though important, is just one of the things that makes for a strong church. Evangelism in 1953 is also after religious fervor. A vitalized membership. That may mean efforts in revitalization of members who already belong to the church, but who have lost their Holy Zeal. And it will mean vitalizing many for the first time. The power of the Christian Church is in one part dependent on numbers, but more so on the spiritual temperature that prevails. A few degrees sometimes can make a big difference. The difference between normal body temperature and fever heat is only a few degrees.

I fear that our spiritual temperature is all too often sub-normal and there-

fore, in need of being raised considerably without danger of fever heat resulting in religious fanaticism. Why not set our goal - say - "Each month one degree through fifty-three". What we want is not a hot fever, but a holy fervor. Induced not by fear of burning in a world apart, but effected by kindling a fire in the heart.

The Abundant Life

Evangelism 1953 is not to be thought of as fire insurance against the great hereafter, but rather as Life Insurance for the "here" and the "after". It is not so much a matter of being saved **from** a punishment fearful and dreadful; rather, it is being saved **to** a winsome Way of Life that has scope, worth and the largest usefulness; the Abundant Life in God, in a helpful and invigorating fellowship with men.

Evangelism in 1953 means: 1: Introducing men to Christ and "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ;" "Whom to know is life Eternal." "2: It is enlisting men in a great Spiritual Quest: men who "ask" and keep on asking for the heavenly vision - the illumination that comes from above, the insights needed for our day; men who "seek" and keep on seeking after the "pearl of great price" valued above everything else; a personal fellowship with the Living God; having found Him they will seek "first His Kingdom and His Righteousness;" men who "knock" and who keep on knocking on the doors to the many rooms in our Father's world, and when opened, will enter and explore and share their findings to enrich the lives of others. Evangelism 1953 means recruiting men to "prepare the way through the wilderness and make straight" in the human desert, "a Highway for our God."

Methods

Two methods of Evangelism tried and found rewarding, we do well to continue in 1953. They are: "Personal or Visitation Evangelism" and the "Teaching Mission." For additional information write to the chairman of the State Commission on Evangelism, the Rev. Hans Poppe, Russell, Kansas.

—J. D. Schmidt,
Evangelism Committee Member

* * *

Evangelism Helps

Did you know our State Office has a very complete set of Audio-visual aids for the promotion of your church membership campaign? Brand new is a sound filmstrip, "Laymen Witness for Christ." This should be seen by the minister and church board if you are even thinking of doing any work on membership. It lists and illustrates techniques and materials available and gives the general plan. The men and women who do the visiting should see it early in their training. Then for actual training sessions, there is an excellent turn-over chart: "They Went Forth Two By Two." An Additional help to give the feeling for the actual visitation is the filmstrip with records, "Bringing Christ to The Home." The beginning of this filmstrip is a partial duplication of "Laymen Witness for Christ" but indeed not a harmful one. The center section devoted to an actual interview should definitely be shown the workers. Should you exhaust your list of prospective members (better thought of as your Responsibilities) the state office also has a new edition turn-over chart which ties in beautifully with our denominational program for the conservation of church members. Use "Strengthen Thy Brethren" to reacti-

vate some of the dead timber that is around the fringes of the membership roll.

To assist the work a number of very useful cards and pamphlets are available. Recommended for ordering would be: Visitation Agreement Cards (one to be signed by each worker) Prospect and Assignment Cards (get plenty). Attendance Registration Cards (for use during church service). Suggest prospective names be added on the back of the cards.

Then there is the excellent pamphlet by Charles E. Jefferson, "Why Join The Church" (obtainable from Pilgrim Press.) This is good to mail to prospectives in advance. No accompanying letter is necessary. Also to be ordered are guidance folders for the visiting teams. "Laymen Visit For Christ and His Church", "Don't Stop Visiting", "How to be a Friendship Friend." For the new members: "Self Help for New Members" and "What Shall I Do Now". I have not read these guidance folders. They are new, obtainable from Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville, Tenn. An order for them and others should be sent today. This is the 11th hour to begin work on new members for Easter. Remember, "4000 more by '54".

—Hans M. Poppe,
Chairman - Evangelism

Did You Know?

That Wichita Plymouth is now the largest Congregational Church in Kansas? That Wichita Pilgrim made a net gain of 102 members in 1952 - the largest in the state? That Lawrence Plymouth had the largest average attendance at Sunday Morning service - 573? That Kansas City Prairie Village has the largest subscription list to Congregational Kansas - 191 subscribers?

Kansas Women's Department

Mrs. E. C. Garrison, President



Mrs. Judson Fiebiger
March Guest

Rare Opportunity

Mrs. Mary D. Fiebiger, outstanding Churchwoman in our fellowship will be in Kansas March 17-20, giving leadership to four one-day Women's Institutes in Kansas. Born in a manse, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Warren Denison, Mrs. Fiebiger has a background and understanding of church life and problems. Married to the Rev. Judson Fiebiger, she has first hand knowledge of the local parish and its problems, with pastorates in Albany, Utica and Brooklyn, New York. For the past five years, the Fiebiger's have made their home in Grinnell, Iowa where Mr. Fiebiger is Superintendent of the Iowa Congregational Conference. Mrs. Fiebiger served two years as chairman of the Missions Council and is now a member of the Executive Committee of the General Council. She

is in great demand as a speaker in our churches from coast to coast.

She will give leadership in Kansas at Topeka Seaman on March 17, Wichita Fairmount on March 18, Great Bend on March 19 and Stockton on March 20. Registration will be at 9:30 each morning and each session will close by 4 in the afternoon. In addition to presentations both morning and afternoon by Mrs. Fiebiger, there will be sectional meetings on special phases of the Woman's Program, demonstration of literature, and visual helps, and other special features. Lunch will be served at noon by the host church. Every church should be represented at the nearest meeting by at least one car load of women. Opportunities to hear a leader as dynamic as Mrs. Fiebiger do not come often.

As evidence of the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Department Memorial Fund Roll of Honor.

Mrs. Margie Shipley
By Colonial Ladies Prairie Vil.

*

Mrs. Edna Smith

By

Mrs. May Flickinger

Mrs. Ida Herron

Mrs. Flora Napier

*

Miss Margaret Burtis

Mrs. Winifred Annan

Mrs. B. W. Smith

Mrs. Grace Force

Mrs. Pearl McClain

By Women's Ass'n. - Manhattan

State Board Meets

On March 2 and 3 the board of the Kansas Women's Department will hold their annual meeting at the state parsonage in Topeka. Reports from the various departments and plans for the year ahead will be presented with Mrs. E. C. Garrison, president, presiding. Mrs. Garrison returned recently from the Midwinter Meetings in Cleveland where she attended the meeting of Women's Presidents from the entire fellowship.

On Monday noon a courtesy luncheon will be served by Topeka women on the board. The dinner meeting will be held at the Manor Tea Room. Lodging and breakfast for out of town members will be furnished at the Rymph's.

What Are You Doing?

Have you seen - the new TOOL CHEST for social action in our churches? It costs 25 cents and can be secured from 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10. Every Social Action Committee should have the TOOL CHEST. There are four new programs for study and discussion.

Do you receive - "Christian Community?" It will provide new areas of thinking and give help on some things you are already thinking. It is free for the asking at above address.

Do you use visual aids? If so, there are films and filmstrips available to help. Write Miss Bloomer at the Conference Office.

Putting the right tools in the hands of our people will effectively bring their Christian conscience to bear on the problems of human relations in local communities and in facing of national and world situations. If your Woman's Fellowship does not have a Social Action Chairman, why not appoint one now and let her get to work

on some of these thought provoking publications?

Interdenominational groups work out good community programs in some places. A cooperative study of some phase of social action might well bring about some real Christian thinking and action in community life.

Have you tried the small discussion group? Some churches have found that forming such a group for study is valuable. If you want to form such a group, the handbook, "Christian Democracy in Action" is 10 cents from 289 Fourth Avenue.

International Relations can begin at home. Have you read of the experiences some families are having in being hosts to exchange students. Bringing them into the home creates better understanding, brings out new ideas, and can be fun. These boys and girls are from all over the world attending our Kansas colleges and many are lonely. Some of them are Christians, some Moslems, some Buddhists.

The Study Tours for spring and summer. Congregational people are travelers; why not travel to see what your church is doing? There are four tours this year; three still available; the Pacific Tour leaves San Francisco March 10, the European Seminar Human Rights Study Tour leaves Chicago April 6 for a tour of our Congregational work in the southland - a cost of \$140.00 from Chicago. If you are interested, write 289 Fourth Ave., N.Y. I can personally recommend the southern trip.

Let's have your report on the SOCIAL ACTION studies and projects in your church.

—Edith Erickson (Mrs. Elmer E.)
Social Action Chairman

Kansas Pilgrim Fellowship

Norcross Jones, President

Doris Ann Bonnell, Secretary



Nancy Mack
Eastern Association President

Visiting Pilgrim Team

Nancy Mack has been an enthusiastic member of the Eastern Pilgrim Team. On visitations to other churches she has presented some of the background of Pilgrim Fellowship and what it means to her. She and Uncle Harald Wisegarver, Association Sponsor, from Maple Hill along with other PFers in the Topeka area have visited several PF groups and are working on plans to visit others soon.

Camp Slides Ready

There are about fifteen weeks until camp. The Conference office is now booking the slides and will appreciate your early request in order not to disappoint your P.F. group. It is suggested you indicate several dates when sending in your request.

Summer Opportunities

Young people over seventeen years of age have many avenues of service and adventure open to them this summer. YOUTH CARAVANS start June 17 and end August 1. This offers a group work experience in conferences with young people, travel and work in local churches and communities. It is important to get applications in immediately for the Youth Caravans. Each person must be able to pay travel to training center (Tiffin, Ohio) plus a \$5.00 registration. Other costs are taken care of through the sponsoring agencies. Write Miss Ethel A. Shellenger, Dept. of Youth, 200 Schaff Building, 1505 Race Street, Phila. 2, Pa. This is a co-sponsored activity by Congregational-Christian and E & R Churches.

Work camps for college age people will be scheduled as follows:

Elbowoods, N.D. July 5-Aug 15:

Cost \$42.

Swannanoa, NC. July 5-Aug 15:

Cost: \$135.

East Harlem Protestant Parish, New York City, June 28-Aug 23

Cost: \$135.

With the exception of the Youth Caravan write the Conference Office or Rev. Henry R. Rust, 14 Beacon St., Boston for further information. In view of the fact that many applications have been received for the Youth Caravan it is suggested that application be made direct.

Reminder for Lent

Lenten Devotions for Young People are 5 cents. Order from Pilgrim Press.

From Our Reporters

Southern Association Pilgrim Fellowship groups recently answered a questionnaire covering various phases of PF activities. Some of the questions concerned attendance and ideas to stimulate group interest. Reports from some of the groups were:

Sedgwick reported the highest percentage of member attendance - 85%. Interest was stimulated through Bible study, crafts, games and films. They plan to entertain MAIZE and HAVEN at a three group meeting this month.

Udall creates group interest through community outreach. One Sunday a month the PF members present a fifteen minute devotional service in the homes of older people.

Maize reported gradual growth in attendance. Bible drills and special numbers were included in programs.

Emporia spurs attendance with recreation—**Hutchinson** has movies and parties and a pancake supper is planned for this month.

McPherson plans to have shuffleboard tournaments to create more interest and a real old fashioned box supper with all the trimmings is scheduled for February.

Partridge showed the movie "More For Peace" at their Church Family Night February 8.

Wichita Plymouth gets "down to brass tacks" and contacts others with cards and telephone calls. They recently made \$150 by selling 1500 pounds of candy.

Eastern

K.C. Welborn Junior Hi Pilgrims had a bake sale January 24. This was their postponed Workday for Chis project. The Seniors planned a chili supper.

K.C. Rosedale PFers are working

hard on their state pledge and hope to have it completed soon.

At Lawrence Plymouth Uncle Dale Turner is offering on Sunday evenings a course to all church youth entitled "Understanding the New Testament". Prior to the class session supper is served followed by a service of worship. This Sunday evening program will continue until Easter. Slides, filmstrips and movies will help to supplement the teaching program. It offers an opportunity to become acquainted with 27 books of the New Testament, to learn how they were written, their meaning for the people in Jesus' day and their relevance to our own time.

Workday for Christ Report

Receipts as of December 31, 1952 were \$810.05. Receipts reported nationally were \$15,402.03 for 1952.

"One Great Hour of Sharing"

Pilgrim Fellowship groups will participate in the observance of this program in their respective churches March 8. Ministers have received materials in which a special service of worship for young people is included. Ask your minister about it.

Suggestions for P.F. Programs

"Faith in Action" is the new No. 2 Youth Fellowship Program manual. If you missed out earlier "Everyday Christians" is still timely.

"The Good Voice" is the name for the long advertised filmstrip "Ho Washte and Grandmother River." It is now available in color and sound recordings showing our mission to the Indians at Fort Berthold. If you are interested in the work camp at Elbowoods you will want to see this filmstrip.

Camp Wa-Shun-Ga

Senior camp begins May 31 and runs through June 6. Junior Hi dates are June 7-13. Order camp slides soon.



Miss Mildred Widber
Leadership Education Secretary
Division of Christian Education
Boston, Mass.

Statewide Leadership Workshop

April 14, 15, 16, 1953
First Congregational Church
Topeka, Kansas

As previously announced Miss Mildred Widber, Leadership Education Secretary, will be the guest resource leader for the statewide workshop for church school teachers and superintendents. The workshop is intended to serve a dual purpose. First and foremost, it is to help in training the local church school teacher. It is not limited to those of wider experience. Secondly, we do hope to strengthen our total program of outreach through the service of leaders who can go beyond their local churches. This workshop is open to ministers and members on the Chris-

tian Education Boards who are concerned with the administration of the total educational program of the church. However, as stated before we especially urge teachers in the church school to make every effort to attend. Housing will be provided and meals arranged at a minimum cost. It is hoped that our churches will cooperate in this important educational venture by supplementing travel expense and other incidental costs.

A Word About the Workshop

The Pilgrim Series (Spring Quarter) will be used as the basic curriculum material. The following will be included in the 3-day program:

Interpretative Presentations, Miss Widber

A Total Program of Christian Education

Creative Activities

Selecting Good Music

Storytelling and Drama

Workshop Groups (members will work and plan together)

Teaching Songs

Worship

Litany and Choric speech

Storytelling

Audio-visual aids

Demonstration Teaching, Miss Widber

Primary and Junior age children of Topeka will participate

Worship, Fellowship and Recreation. These important features have not been overlooked.

Plan now to attend. Send in your reservation. Your church needs you. You need your church.

* * *

"The Better Church School"

Teachers will not want to miss reading this book. Write Conference.

Family Camp at La Foret

A regional Family Camp will be held at Camp La Foret in the Black Forest near Colorado Springs, Colorado June 28 to July 5, 1953. It will be directed by the Rev. James C. Mead of Jackson, Mich. He has directed Family Camps for a number of years in Michigan. We are indeed fortunate to have our first family camp under his capable and constructive leadership. The cost will be \$75.00 per family, regardless of size.

Family camps are springing up all over the country and are helping to provide some of the hill-top experiences needed in this present day. Results materialize in the enrichment of life in individual families as well as revitalizing life in many local churches. Write conference for details.

Who May Go to Family Camp

Any family from one of our Kansas Colorado or Nebraska Congregational Churches who is sponsored and recommended by its church. The family must agree to come as an entire family for the entire week and be interested in the enrichment of family living.

What Happens at Family Camp

Families live together in separate units. They eat, play, and work and worship together. Some of the activities include swimming, hiking, making things (crafts and hobbies), fellowship singing, etc. Experienced leaders in the fields of family relations and religion will lead groups in discussion and seminar groups. Opportunity will be provided for counsel together, learning how others have met their problems.

Church sponsored families

Churches are urged to help sponsor families financially in order to attend.

Vacation Church School Clinics

Plan now to attend the Clinic near-

est your church. Dates, places and churches for these 1953 V.C.S. Clinics are:

March 3

Scott City—Christian
Harper—Christian
Leavenworth—Christian
Fort Scott—Presbyterian

March 4

Garden City—Presbyterian
Winfield—Presbyterian
Olathe—Christian
Pittsburg—Christian

March 5

Liberal—Methodist
El Dorado—Christian
Ottawa—Baptist
Independence—First Methodist

March 6

Bucklin—Methodist
Newton—Methodist
Emporia—Methodist
Yates Center—E.U.B.

March 10

Phillipsburg—Christian
Russell—Congregational
Pratt—Presbyterian
Manhattan—Christian

March 11

Beloit—Methodist
Oberlin—Methodist
Great Bend—Congregational
Blue Rapids—Methodist

March 12

Goodland—Methodist
Belleville—Methodist
Salina—E.U.B.
Hiawatha—Presbyterian

March 13

Wakeeney—Methodist
Clay Center—Presbyterian
Hutchinson—Trinity Methodist
Holton—E.U.B.

Congregational leaders will be Mr. Heinz Schwarz, Mound City and Mr. Faye Duffin, Kansas City Rosedale.

Kansas Laymen's Fellowship

Chester Bidleman, President

Charles Armstrong, Sec.-Treas.

Meetings of State Presidents

Chester Bidleman attended the Mid-Winter meeting of State Fellowship Presidents in Cleveland, January 24 and 25. Attendance was good - the program was excellent - many plans were made for the coming year.

Remember March 8

The Laymen's Fellowship is asking everyone to be generous in giving to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING on March 8. These gifts will go to Relief and Reconstruction, and be credited to your Second Mile giving. We need not be reminded that the need is great. Unfortunates in India, Korea, Near East and other places of need, will receive these gifts. Share with the distressed - help the needy to help themselves.

Revolving Fund

It is a little early to make a definite statement regarding the success of the Church Building Fund Campaign, but information to date gives much encouragement. It is hoped all the pledges can be made by mid year. The time between now and June 30 is short, so immediate action is necessary. If all pledges can be made by this time, the staff set up for this herculean task can be disbanded and promotion costs thus reduced. If your church is still in doubt and desires more information or someone to meet with your boards or congregation, please let your wishes be known and assistance will be sent you. This is our chance to repay those of past year, who have made funds available for our many churches in their hour of need. Of course, we

can not repay the original donors, but we can and should pass it on to others. THE NEED IS GREAT and THE TIME IS NOW - don't let others down. This project is primarily the work of Laymen, but the help of everyone is needed.

"A man is not always known by the friends he keeps - but sometimes by the enemies he makes -".

La Foret

It is time now to plan to attend the Fellowship sponsored camp at La Foret for Laymen and their wives. The many from Kansas who have attended the past two years are unanimous in their praise of this week at La Foret.

Many new friends, religious training, good food, pleasant surroundings are rewards for those who attend.

The date this year will be August 23-30. The cost for the week is \$27.50 per person. The Kansas Laymen's Fellowship hopes many will plan to be at LaForet.

Active Men's Groups

Minute Men of Prairie Village, 60 strong, met early in January to hear Major Walter Pennino tell of his experiences as McArthur's Press Agent in Japan. They meet once each month for dinner, a program and fellowship.

Fairmount Men's Club, organized during 1952 reports a good year under the leadership of Mr. A. E. Crawford, president.

Kansas City Welborn Men's Club had their monthly meeting on January 22 with the Rev. Oscar Bonny as guest speaker.

"What Are We Doing?"

That was the title of a sermon preached recently at First Congregational Church in Topeka. The Rev. Ray Carlton Jones told something of the achievements of the past, projects now in progress and plans for the future of our Congregational-Christian fellowship. It was truly a Missionary sermon - which received much favorable comment. Have you had a missionary sermon from your pulpit recently? The missionary outreach of the fellowship is a thrilling story which can make O.C.W.M. giving come alive!

New Year's Day

Open house was held at the Sabetha parsonage with Phyllis and Malcolm White and their five lovely children as hosts. Keepsakes from China which the Whites were able to rescue from the Communists were displayed. Friends from the Women's group and the Pilgrim fellowship helped with the serving.

Religious Arts Festival

This spring the third annual Religious Art Festival will be held at Fairmount Church in Wichita. The purpose is the development of local talent in the fields of religious arts, poetry and music. This encouragement of creative talent has brought out some fine displays and presentations, according to the Rev. George Fisk, Minister.

Osborne

Mrs. R. M. Raney, minister of music in the Osborne Church has three choirs meeting regularly for rehearsal and serving the church. A Chancel Choir of twenty four voices, a Carol Choir with 13 members and a Childrens Choir of 14 voices. Mrs. Raney studied last winter at the Julliard School of Music and studied organ

under Dr. Clarence Dickinson at the Union Theological School of Sacred Music.

Long Illness

The Rev. Wm. A. Roberts, former minister at Smith Center and Athol, is still very ill in a nursing home in Bloomington, Indiana. Mr. Roberts suffered a stroke while visiting his son last August and was unable to return to Smith Center. We feel sure he would appreciate word from his Kansas friends at 414 E. 9th, Bloomington. Mrs. Roberts and their son, Wm. B., are near him there.

Topeka Seaman

Seaman Community Church can soon write "finis" to their work of flood repairs. January saw the completion of new concrete steps at the entrance and concrete floors in furnace and fuel rooms. Yet in plans are walks around the church and parsonage. These final repairs and the fact that the 1953 Financial Drive resulted in the largest amount pledged in its history, has made the members and friends very happy and gives encouragement for a bigger and broader program of service. W. E. Dull is serving the latter part of his 24th year as pastor.

Kansas City Welborn

The Gleaners class honored Mr. David Grove at a dinner December 4. He retired as teacher after eight years of continuous service. Seventy-four members were present who presented him with a card table and chair set. A new plan has been worked out by the class so that a different teacher will conduct the class each Sunday of the month. They will include Messrs. Geo. Dulin, Orville Reeves, David Grove, Mrs. Floyd Rickey and Rev. Trickey.

Gleaned From 1952 Clerk's Reports

<i>Church</i>	<i>Membership January 1, 1952</i>	<i>Net Gain</i>	<i>Average Church Attendance</i>	<i>Church School Enrollment</i>
Almena	174	-3	78	176
Athol	86	-1	—	56
Carbondale	84	4	—	171
Centralia	217	3	40	75
Council Grove	148	5	—	84
Cumberland	33	0	—	29
Dover	272	14	132	204
Downs	126	7	—	65
*Ellis	212	-27	—	85
Emporia First	453	10	234	186
Emporia Sardis	107	1	52	63
Eureka	233	-2	—	95
Ford	151	5	46	93
Garden City	328	26	121	172
Garfield	71	0	25	23
Gorham	99	5	44	56
Great Bend	474	-65	—	259
Haven	61	-3	—	83
Hiawatha	61	9	—	—
*Hutchinson	199	-59	120	122
*Independence	98	-11	63	139
Kansas City First Pilg.	342	41	129	196
Kans. City Prairie Vil.	374	81	—	359
Kansas City Rosedale	286	-8	150	300
Kansas City Ruby	237	21	—	238
Kansas City Welborn	528	20	275	350
Kinsley	218	7	—	116
Kiowa	162	10	63	114
Kirwin	87	10	—	115
*Lawrence Plymouth	815	18	573	400
Leavenworth	135	0	72	101
Lenora	192	8	43	89
Leona	45	1	47	80
Lincoln	153	2	90	120
Little River	150	14	65	163
McPherson	387	-7	119	186
Maize	110	0	65	70
Manhattan	385	-4	159	134
Maple Hill	133	-6	80	109
Matfield Green	42	-2	35	79
Milford	99	0	56	125

Mount Hope	375	11	—	178
Mound City	89	19	42	92
*Muscotah	120	-38	—	92
Neola	26	-2	17	24
Newton	194	6	67	50
Olive Hill	93	4	43	—
Onaga	197	-1	—	102
Oronoque	17	-2	—	—
*Osborne	157	-6	142	151
Ottawa	78	-1	—	119
Partridge	279	9	—	248
Pleasant Hill	61	-3	30	—
Pleasant Home	92	3	96	98
Plevna	129	-4	82	105
Russell	266	17	—	164
Sabetha	480	26	179	340
Sedgwick	126	1	56	76
*Seneca	130	-56	60	64
*Smith Center	120	-26	—	96
Stanley	157	-17	50	135
St. Marys	19	-1	12	—
Stockton	91	4	48	65
Tonganoxie	155	3	34	53
Topeka Central	1446	-3	250	308
Topeka First	663	91	254	370
Topeka Seabrook	231	51	90	225
Topeka Seaman	447	80	131	200
Towanda	67	-7	—	85
Udall	95	-1	—	104
Wakefield	107	-6	43	105
Wheaton	60	-3	—	45
*Whitewater	299	0	130	148
*Wichita Fairmount	536	16	—	402
Wichita Pilgrim	338	102	112	198
Wichita Plymouth	1529	83	406	529

* Indicates that 10 or more names were removed through revision of roll.